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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The previous British Government did not take so much interest in the village uplift work as it is being done by the Congress Government. Now, we have set apart about a crore of rupees for this uplift work. We are concentrating our attention upon village uplift work. With this object in view we have started a separate department to go into the question. Therefore we have got to speed up the work."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Have the Government decided to extend the scheme to other firkas?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government have accepted to extend the scheme to more firka areas in about 100 villages."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" When will work start in the extended firkas?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" As early as possible."

Launching of prosecutions under the control orders.

* 101 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any discretion is given according to the present rules to the Collectors of districts not to launch prosecutions under the various control orders relating to foodgrains or rationing rules in petty and trivial or deserving cases where there is no intention to disobey and indulge in blackmarketing;

(b) if not, whether the Government have under consideration the question of permitting the Collectors of districts to use their discretion in launching such prosecution?

THE HON. SRI J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) In view of answer to clause (a), this does not arise."

Distribution of iron, steel and galvanized sheets.

* 102 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of iron and steel and galvanized iron sheets received from January 1949 up to the end of September 1949;

(b) the quantity that has been allotted for agricultural purposes; and

(c) how it has been distributed among the various districts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Hon. the Minister for Industries) :—" (a) 12,106 tons of iron and steel and 2,087 tons of galvanized iron sheets.

" (b) 4,390 tons of iron and steel and 499 tons of galvanized iron sheets.

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" (c) A statement[a] showing the quantity of iron and steel and galvanized iron sheets as distributed to the various districts is placed on the table of the House."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" May I know if there is any basis on which distribution is made?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I believe applications are received and that is one of the basis of distribution."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Is the matter of giving permits left to the will of the officers concerned or whether there is any principle that is laid down by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" No principle is laid down by the Government. The idea is to see that every area in the Presidency gets an equitable quantity. But I see from the distribution chart here that most probably some areas did not want that much, and so they did not get. Some have got only that much of what they have asked for. If some areas want more, they are given increased quantity."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Is it true that some areas did not at all want? I think that it is a universal fact that every district wants these. So, is it true that there is no demand for these from the districts concerned?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the statement furnished. If his case is that somebody who has applied for these, has been refused, then I would like to investigate into the matter."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" In the statement some districts have not been allotted any quantity of galvanized sheets whereas I know that there is a lot of demand from the districts? May I know the reason for this?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The chart that has been placed on the table of the House shows not allotment, but distribution."

SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Are the Government aware that in dry cultivation areas more iron implements for agricultural purposes are necessary and so far as Rayalaseema is concerned the supply is inadequate?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" That is a well-known fact. As I have already stated, if some districts have not received the quantities equivalent to other districts, it must most probably be that they have not asked for it. As I have already stated if it is brought to the notice of the Government that any application was refused, certainly the Government will go into the matter."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" May I mention that there has been a demand for these from many people from the West Godavari

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 1094–1095 infra.

district and that they have not been allotted? May I know whether the Hon. Minister will go into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"According to the chart laid on the table, the quantity of iron distributed to West Godavari is 215 tons and the quantity of galvanized iron is nil."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"My question is when there is a demand from that district, why nothing was allotted to that district? May I know if the Hon. Minister in charge could investigate into the matter?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"As the hon. Member has raised this question, I shall ask the department concerned to find out whether there has been a demand from that district and if it has been refused. If there was demand, even now I think it should not be difficult to allot them some quantity."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"In view of the claims from different parts of the House, may I request the Government to ask the officer concerned to review the releases made to the different districts so that at least there is equitable distribution in future?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"That will be noted."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"May I suggest to the Government that they may fix a definite quota for the various districts instead of giving a free hand to the officers concerned?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"If there is a definite demand from a particular district, we can give them the necessary quota. So there is no point in these things stagnating in places where they may not be required."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—"I know that it is universally known that injustice is being done by the departments concerned. That is why I would suggest to the Government to see that a fixed quota is allotted for each district. If there is demand for it, the districts will take them. Otherwise, the quota not wanted by the districts could be distributed to the other districts which require it."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—"I may tell that there was a proposal that every district must get an equal quota. I believe it was on this principle the districts were distributed. But from the chart which has been placed on the table, it looks that some districts have not got anything. I was inferring from that that those districts did not actually want these. Anyhow, as I have already said that if a specific case is brought to the notice of the Government, the Government will go into the matter and review the whole position and see that justice is done to everybody in the districts."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—"May I know whether the figures given refer only to those relating to agricultural purposes and do